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VICKY MOCHAMA
'Rape culture is when women who do the right thing have to ask for justice from the wrong person'
metroNEWS

Plus More on Halifax sexual assault verdict
metroNEWS

High 5°C/Low -7°C Partly cloudy



HAVE A HEART

Community angry after city accidentally trashes reconciliation art display

metroNEWS

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Province vows to defend pipeline — in court, if need be

THRONE SPEECH

NDP priorities also include slashing school fees



Matt Kieltka
Metro | Edmonton

The provincial government vowed to go to court against anyone challenging Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline in the throne speech read by Lt.-Gov. Lois Mitchell Thursday.

"Government will defend our province and its key industry in court, seeking intervenor status on legal challenges to the Trans Mountain pipeline," she read on behalf of Alberta's NDP government.

The throne speech outlined the goals and priorities of Premier Rachel Notley's government as it begins a new legislature session set to run until June 1. Mitchell also outlined plans to slash school fees and create a consumer bill of rights.

The province has already passed legislation that bans door-to-door energy sales

and eliminates what was viewed as predatory interest rates charged by payday lenders. But it's the plan to support the expansion of Trans Mountain, which shuttles crude and refined oil from Edmonton to Vancouver, that Mount Royal University political science professor Duane Bratt said is telling.

He said the move signals not only the importance of the project to Alberta's economy, but how much the NDP has had to evolve since Notley was elected premier.

"If this was the old PC government that wouldn't be surprising, but it shows how the NDP has moved from its Opposition status to government by realizing the importance of pipelines," Bratt said. "If, in two year's time, they go to the polls and there has been no progress on Trans Mountain, the NDP is in a lot of trouble."

The \$6.8-billion pipeline project faces strong opposition from First Nations and municipal governments in British Columbia. While it is not unprecedented to see provincial governments get involved in court battles at home, Bratt said intervening on a project's behalf outside the province is "a bit more remarkable."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



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GT

SUNROOF

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LEATHER/AWD

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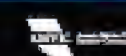
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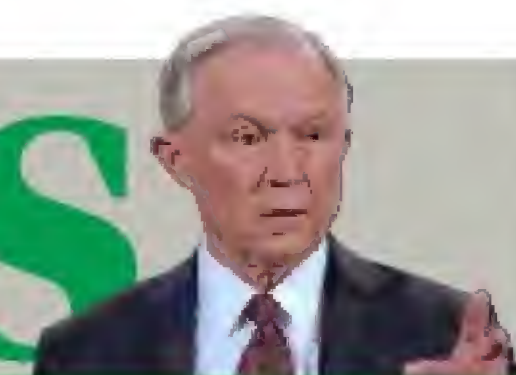


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MISSING

'The ball is in their court'



Darren Krause
Metro | Calgary

Edmonton resident Ken Hakze says he's ready to let the past stay in the past and move forward after the shocking news his family received earlier this week.

Lethbridge police revealed Thursday they'd located two Alberta sisters, Anna and Kym Hakze, that family hadn't seen since the mid 1980s, and were officially reported missing in 2003.

Lethbridge police confirmed the duo were positively identified by fingerprints after a lengthy investigation into their alleged disappearance.

The sisters' mother reported the two as missing in 2003 after not having seen or heard from them since the mid 1980s. They were last seen by family in Edmonton at that time.

According to Lethbridge police, Anna, now 67, and Kym, now 53, were inseparable, but at the time Anna was not connected to family. The pair disappeared together and hadn't contacted relatives since.

Ken Hakze said he's hoping his sisters will reach out to learn more about the family that's always held out hope they would be found alive.

"The questions (about their disappearance) are of no matter now," said Ken.

Lethbridge police said the investigation spanned two decades, multiple detectives and a lot of dead ends.

A break in the case came during an annual file review in January when it was discovered that a theft report had been filed to the Vancouver Police Department in 1999 with an alias of Anna Hakze attached to it. While it wasn't Anna, the person did provide police with information involving a Crime Stoppers tip received in 2012, involving an author of several books with an alias believed to be used by Kym Hakze.

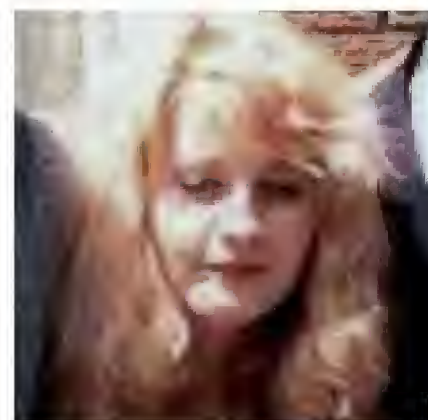
By doing an online search of the author's name, police located a recent story that had a photo of the woman and the area she was living.

In late February, U.S. police attended the home of Kym Hakze, who no longer goes by that name, and confirmed her identity by fingerprint match.

Ken said they haven't been able to contact his sisters yet, due to privacy reasons, but he confirmed the sisters have been made aware of the desire to reconnect.

"The ball is now in their court," Ken said.

LPS has been in contact with Kym Hakze who told them that they didn't know they'd been reported missing and had simply walked away from their lives decades earlier.

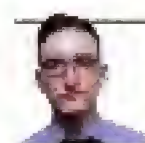


Kym, left, and Anna Hakze were last seen more than 30 years ago have been located alive and are living in the U.S. CONTRIBUTED

Province's fee cut to save parents \$50M

EDUCATION

Parent groups say bill doesn't go far enough



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Parents will pay less to put their kids through school in Alberta this fall, if a new bill introduced by the NDP government Thursday passes.

Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees, will eliminate fees for instructional supplies as well as busing to school. Combined, those two fees cost Alberta parents more than \$50 million a year and add up to 25 per cent of total fees for K-12 students.

Parent organization Support Our Students Alberta applauded the decision as a step toward equity in the education system.

"Sometimes in September it's like Christmas, the financial crunch that people feel with school fees," said the group's executive director Carolyn Blasetti, who has two kids in the public school system.

"Especially families who have more than one child, or are living near or at the poverty line or below, families like that really struggle to pay these fees."

Blasetti added that SOS Alberta is pulling for a complete elimination of fees.

Luke Fevin with Alberta Parents for Unbiased Public Inclusive Learning also said the move is a step in the right direction, but doesn't go far



Support Our Students Alberta's Carolyn Blasetti said her group is pulling for a complete elimination of fees. KEVIN TUONG/METRO



For years, families have said enough is enough, these fees are too much. Premier Rachel Notley

enough.

"We encourage the minister to continue looking for operational efficiencies that have zero impact on education outcomes," Fevin said.

The fees are currently charged at varying rates across the province at the discretion of school boards.

Under Bill 1, the government will cover the costs and keep the money with school

boards. More details on where the money will come from within the education ministry are expected when the budget drops on March 16.

Textbooks, workbooks, photocopying, printing and paper supplies are included in the covered instructional supplies and materials, and the province will consult with parents and school boards to determine what other items

should be included.

Edmonton's public and Catholic school boards have thrown their support behind the bill.

Premier Rachel Notley said Thursday's announcement is "only the start" and the government will continue working to further reduce fees.

"For years, families have said enough is enough, these fees are too much. And yet, those fees have continued to grow," Notley said.

The NDP promised on the campaign trail in 2015 that they would invest \$45 million to reduce school fees.

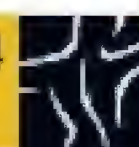
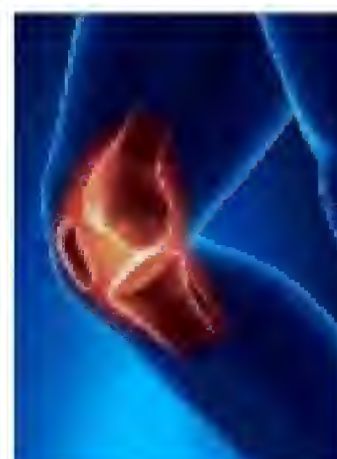
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Good Glucos founder Elliot Gatt speaks to TEC Edmonton CEO Chris Lumb at the incubator's new co-working space on Jasper Avenue. MATT KIELTYKA / METRO

Startups pounce on co-work space

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Incubator aims to diversify province's economy



**Matt
Kieltyka**
Metro | Vancouver

You may not know Good Glucos now, but Edmonton entrepreneur Elliot Gatt hopes that changes soon.

Describing the health start-up as “the Dollar Shave Club-slash-Tom’s shoes of diabetic test strips,” Gatt, 33, is one of the tenants of TEC Edmonton’s new downtown co-working space for new tech companies on the rise.

“We hope to be that company people in Edmonton recognize and talk about,” said the young executive.

Good Glucos, which launched in January around the same time TEC’s co-working space on Jasper Avenue opened, works by offering diabetics test strips at a reduced price: \$45 a month, instead of an average of \$80 else-

where. For every 12 subscribers, the company gives a low-income diabetic a free supply of strips for a year.

Gatt came up with the idea because of his own experience.

He was diagnosed as a Type 1 diabetic at the age of 17 and said his parents — both “starving artists” — struggled to pay for his testing equipment.

“The Canadian Diabetes Association put out a stat that 57 per cent of Canadians with diabetes don’t follow their prescribed therapy due to cost,” Gatt said. “So what we’re doing is trying to address that problem. The goal is to make everyone be able to have the ability to manage their disease.”

The company currently employs four people and is one of six start-ups that now occupy the incubator office space at 10230 Jasper Ave.

As TEC Edmonton adds more furniture to the space and screens applicants, its CEO Chris Lumb expects up to 10 fledgling companies to call the office home until they’re big enough to move on.

Gatt said the space gives him a prime downtown address, with

subsidized rent and access to experts that can propel his company forward.

“This is my first time starting up anything like this, so when it comes to something like TEC Edmonton, they have consultants that can help you and offer training,” said Gatt. “You have access to people that can connect you to (Alberta Health Services), for example. So as a start-up launching into that space and literally trying to disrupt Big Pharma, that’s key for us, having the expertise that we lack.”

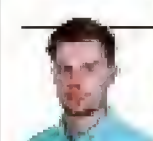
The new space specifically caters to companies smaller than TEC Edmonton typically helps.

The companies may be small now, but Lumb said start-ups like these are critical to diversifying the province’s economy.

“We work with about 120 companies per year. They have \$600 billion in revenue, have invested several hundred million dollars in research and development and employ about 2,500 people in the region,” said Lumb. “It’s not just sort of a few little companies here and there. It’s a lot of activity. This is creating a more healthy future.”

CITY BUDGET

Dry winter brings big surplus



**Jeremy
Simes**
Metro | Edmonton

A low-snow winter helped bring Edmonton a \$64 million operating surplus last year.

The city said Thursday the savings are primarily due to a warmer winter and less money spent on snow and ice control on roads.

“Mother Nature clearly gave us a helping hand this past year,” said Todd Burge, Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, in a news release.

“However, the results overall show that we continue to manage our finances on residents’ behalf for long-term sustainability, flexibility and responsiveness to emerging needs.”

The surplus will be put in the

Financial Stabilization Reserve. Funds can then be directed by council to several areas, including expenses that are committed but not yet utilized, the fleet services vehicle replacement reserve or the Cornerstones II program.

What will happen with the money is expected to be debated Tuesday at city council, but may not get voted on until the final tax rate is set in April.



Sara Komarnisky is upset the city removed an installation of paper hearts that carried the message of reconciliation. JEREMY SIMES/METRO

City apologizes for removing garden

RECONCILIATION

Healing Forest educated people on Indigenous history



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

City officials are apologizing after staff removed more than 1,000 paper hearts with messages of reconciliation from the river valley and threw them away.

"It was a misunderstanding, and a big mistake," said Travis Kennedy, an acting director for parks operations in northeast Edmonton.

Reconciliation in Solidarity Edmonton, or RISE, created the Healing Forest installation last November by tying the paper

hearts into trees along the popular River Valley Road pathway, to teach Edmontonians about our Indigenous history.

But Kennedy said two staff members removed the hearts on Feb. 23, after noticing many of them had an "untidy" appearance — they were on the ground and snagged in plants, he said.

"They didn't know what the offerings were or what it meant. It's a bit of a gap in our leadership communication down to them."

The messages were made by community members, and many offer memories or messages of hope in response to issues like the residential school system, the '60s scoop and missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

RISE programming lead Sara Komarnisky said Thursday the group found out about the removal Wednesday morning.

"It's really sad, and I'm pretty angry, too," Komarnisky said.

"We were hoping that could become a permanent space for reconciliation. Hearing that it was the city who took them down was a real disappointment. Just talk to us, we're here."

RISE and the city had agreed the art would remain in the river valley until deciding on a permanent location.

"It was the first Healing Forest in Canada," Komarnisky said. "We got so many positive messages from it. People felt hopeful after walking past it."

Juanita Spence, the supervisor of river valley parks and facilities, said the city will work with RISE to determine the next steps.

"The city definitely wants to reconcile this situation and work towards still helping the group achieve their goals with this project," she said.

COURT

Lawyers focus on mental state of accused in stabbing

A jury is being urged to consider the mental state of a man accused of killing two co-workers and wounding four others in a bloody knife attack at a grocery warehouse. Jayme Pasioka has pleaded not guilty to 10 charges, including first-degree murder and attempted murder, in the stabbings three years ago.

Defence lawyer Peter Royal said during closing arguments Thursday that jurors should have doubts about whether the Crown's case meets the test of showing intent for first-degree

murder. He suggested they could find Pasioka guilty of manslaughter.

Thierno Bah, 41, and Fitzroy Harris, 50, were killed in the attack.

Royal said the evidence shows Pasioka, 32, suffered from severe schizophrenia and that he told police he didn't plan to kill and felt sad about what happened.

"This was a man going through a nervous breakdown," Royal said. "Clearly Mr. Pasioka was severely disturbed at the time."

Crown prosecutor Kim Goddard told the jury that Pasioka's mental-health symptoms were mild and evidence shows he planned to end his own suffering by killing others. Goddard said that on the day of the stabbings Pasioka wore a military-style vest, dressed all in black and left his Edmonton home with two knives. Before going to work, he went to a store at West Edmonton Mall to buy two extra knives and had a normal conversation with a clerk.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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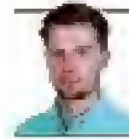
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Helping the vulnerable

COMMUNITY

Mayor pushes for supportive housing centres in city



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's streets were tough for Lavine Horsefall until she found sanctuary in a supportive housing facility.

"Some of them rough you up," recalled Horsefall, who moved into Ambrose Place in 2014. "You have to numb yourself up after getting hurt. It's hard getting off of the bottle."

Horsefall was among numerous tenants that shared their stories with Mayor Don Iveson and other elected officials Thursday, putting the spotlight on the supportive housing complex for people who are homeless and couples of Indigenous descent.

"People are hurting out there," said Norbert Dumais, who stays at Ambrose Place. "It's so cold most of the time



Lavine Horsefall had a rough time living on Edmonton's streets for two years before calling Ambrose Place home. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

and I don't know how they do it. It just bothers me."

The politicians were invited to learn about the facility's programming that helps reduce the risks of drug and alcohol use.

Alberta Health Services col-

lected data on some of Ambrose's clients before and after they moved in since it opened in 2014, finding inpatient days at hospitals reduced by 81 per cent.

The report also found the number of overall inpatient

acute days dropped by 74 per cent and emergency room visits declined by 45 per cent.

One emergency visit typically costs the health system thousands of dollars.

"The statistics are absolutely

"We need more places like this for vulnerable people to call home."

Don Iveson

crystal clear that this will save money in the health system and save money in the justice system," Iveson told reporters, following his conversations with clients.

"If we really want to end homelessness, we need more places like this for vulnerable people to call home."

Iveson pushed for \$21 million, stretched over 10 years, from the provincial and federal governments to support facilities like Ambrose Place.

"We think that will develop the thousands-or-so units that are needed," he said.

Horsefall, now clean, has taken up moccasin beading.

"When you bead, your mind has to be clear," she explained. "If it's not clear, you're always having to re-do your work."

SNOWMOBILE DEATHS

Albertan fatalities two-thirds of victims

All the avalanches that killed snowmobilers over the past five years occurred in British Columbia, but two-thirds of the victims were from Alberta.

Avalanche Canada says March is the deadliest month for snowslides and it is focusing its safety message on Alberta's snowmobilers this year.

The avalanche safety organization says of the 45 people who were killed in avalanches over the past five years, 24 were snowmobiling.

It says about 66 per cent of the snowmobiling victims were male Alberta residents, and of those, 73 per cent were from communities within 150 kilometres of Edmonton.

Last year, 12 of the 15 people who died in avalanches were snowmobilers.

Avalanche Canada says everyone needs to have an avalanche transceiver, probe and shovel, and is asking people to check its website for training courses and conditions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Edmonton's City Beautiful Movement shows what the city would have been like had 20th century planners had their way. SUPPLIED

What could have been Edmonton

FILM

'You leave the presentation with a 100 year hindsight.'



Pushpa Balgobin
For Metro | Edmonton

A new 3D film shows what Edmonton might have been had 19th century planners had their way. Think classic buildings, museums and expansive parks, in the same vein as Paris or Chicago.

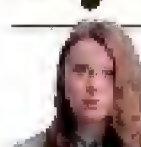
The presentation, called Edmonton's City Beautiful Movement, is happening at Fort Edmonton Park this weekend as part of the RetroFutures series, which imagines what the city would be like if certain historical events had gone differently.

It shows how Edmonton was envisioned by proponents of the City Beautiful Movement, an urban planning philosophy heavy on geometric designs that first became popular in the late nineteenth century. "The entire presentation blends archival imagery, contemporary photos and recorded audio clips," said Ryan Stephens with the Edmonton Heritage Council.

"There is a sense that what we are now trying to capture is what they originally envisioned for the legislature and Churchill," he said of modern urban planning efforts. "You leave the presentation with about a 100 year hindsight." Although the plans were supported by politicians of the day, they were eventually abandoned due to a lack of money following the first World War. The film was produced by IMAX cameraman Dylan Reade and architect Darrel Babuk.

AVIATION

MRU planes won't fly amid probe



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Mount Royal University has confirmed the aviation program's remaining two TECNAM planes are grounded indefinitely after a tragic crash killed two pilot instructors.

The decision comes as students return to flying for the first time since the plane went down. The twin-engine planes will be grounded until the Transportation Safety Board (TSB) and the school finish

their respective investigations.

Students, of which there are 66 registered, returned to the cockpit this week in the program's five other planes — single-engine Cessna 172s.

"We are trying to come to terms with what's gone on as we begin to resume regular flying operations," said Leon Cygman, chair of Mount Royal University's Aviation program. "It's true that we can't instantly pick up where we left off, we are taking a cautious and deliberate approach to getting back into the air."

WEEKEND EVENTS

Go out and enjoy the city's delights

SATURDAY

What: The world famous Harlem Globetrotters descend on Edmonton this Saturday, ready to showoff their renowned ball-handling abilities, comedy and fan interaction.

When: 2 p.m.

Where: Northlands Coliseum, 7424 118 Ave

SUNDAY

What: Finish off Black History Month by taking in the Oscar-nominated documentary *I Am Not Your Negro* based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript *Remember this House*. The film explores the history of racism in America using archival footage to study the whitewashing of black actors in film.

When: 4 p.m.

Where: Metro Cinemas

SUNDAY

What: The Edmonton coin show: Numismatists rejoice! Canada's largest coin collection, show and sale will be in Edmonton on Sunday showcasing rare collectables and offering appraisals.

When: March 5, 10:00AM – 5:00PM

Where: Howard Johnson Hotel 5540 Stony Plain Road

ALL WEEKEND

What: World of Wheels: The 18th Annual World of Wheels runs all weekend at the Edmonton Expo Centre starting Friday afternoon. The show features a plethora of custom vehicles. On Saturday Dukes of Hazzard stars Tom Wopat, aka Luke Duke, and Catherine Bach, aka Daisy Duke, will do a meet and greet.

When: All weekend, various times

Where: Edmonton Expo Centre 7515 118 Ave.

HUDSON'S BAY

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TAXI ASSAULT VERDICT

Canadians outraged

COURT

Hundreds call for probe after judge's not guilty verdict

Cody McEachern & Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Anger is growing across Canada against a judge who found a taxi driver not guilty of sexual assault this week. Petitions have been launched calling for an investigation against Judge Gregory Lenehan as people organize to protest his latest verdict.

More than 3,000 people had signed the main petition by Thursday evening, the day after Lenehan's decision allowed Bassam Al-Rawi to walk free.

Bassam Al-Rawi was charged after being found with an unconscious and mostly naked woman in his cab on May 23, 2015.

During his trial last month, the Crown presented a toxicology report showing the 26-year-old complainant would've had a concentration of between 223 and 244 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood when police found her. "Clearly a drunk can consent," Lenehan said in his decision.

The comments sent a tide of uproar across the country and spurred many to speak out.

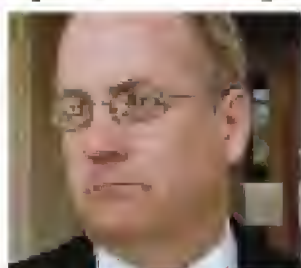
The online petition calls the judge's views of consent "antiquated and dangerous."

"He should not be in a position to hand down decisions allowing sexual predators to go free," it reads.

Multiple protests have been planned for next week in Halifax.

"The point is to cause a disruption," said Amanda Dodsworth, one of the organizers. "We want to be seen and be heard, and what better way to do that than with a couple hundred people marching down the street. There are a lot of angry people, and they need an outlet to voice their opinion."

Leah Parsons, the mother of Rehtaeh Parsons, has added her voice to those demanding a review of Lenehan. Parsons' 17-year-old daughter committed suicide in April 2013 following months of bullying related to an explicit photo of her and a boy that was shared around her high school. A teen boy was charged with child pornography in that case and was sentenced to 12 months probation after a trial in Lenehan's court.



Judge Lenehan
when he was a
Crown prosecutor in
2009. COURTESY CBC

A review into how police and the Crown handled the Parsons case found "errors from start to finish." "For this man to actually walk free after all of that evidence? It is just sickening," Parsons said Thursday. "It's sending such a horrible, horrible message to other victims of assault. How are they going to come forward?"

"He obviously has his own perceptions about what is consent, and that is the problem we see everywhere. He should definitely be reviewed by somebody independent."

Police and judges need proper training for dealing with sexual assault cases, she said. Everyone needs to be on the same page regarding issues of consent and how victims behave following traumatic events, she added.

Consent must be affirmative and ongoing. Consent cannot be compromised.



Vicky Mochama
Metro | Toronto

An extremely drunk woman cannot consent to sex. Any public servant who continues to believe she can is making the world unsafe for women.

Judge Gregory Lenehan ruled Wednesday that a taxi driver accused in a Halifax sexual assault case was not guilty because a lack of consent could not be proved.

"Clearly," he said, "a drunk can consent."

This is not true. Our understanding of consent has evolved but Lenehan's is woefully outdated. Consent must be affirmative and ongoing. Consent cannot be compromised. A judge presiding over a sexual assault case should know that.

The taxi driver, Bassam Al-Rawi, was charged after a woman was found in his car. Having entrusted her safety to the driver, a stranger, the complainant's inebriation only maximizes the horror of the situation.

Now, however, instead of safeguarding her trust and that of other women, some institutions have supported the man charged, and acquitted, in her attack.

The city's licensing committee, composed of city councillors, voted in August 2015, two months after the incident, to reinstate the driver's taxi licence with the conditions that he is not allowed to drive between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. and has to have a camera in his car.

That said, it appears he didn't file the paperwork required to start driving again. He does not work for his former employer, Bob's Taxi; however, the licence allows him to act as an independent driver and take fares.

The judge's ruling, too, is a failure to protect women. While the judge acknowledges the moral obligation that the driver had to deliver the complainant home safely, he demonstrates a clear lack of knowledge on consent.

"(The complainant) might very well have been capable of appearing lucid but drunk,

and able to direct, ask, agree, or consent to any number of different activities," Lenehan said.

The complainant was found passed out and undressed in the cab while the driver tried to hide her underwear. Toxicology reports shown in court revealed her blood alcohol content to be nearly triple the legal limit.

Again, a vulnerable woman cannot consent.

The councillors who re-licensed the driver must be held to account.

So too must Judge Lenehan. (This is the same judge who issued a light punishment to Rehtaeh Parsons' tormentors.)

An outpouring of complaints are now being sent to the provincial and national Judicial Council. Provincial intervention may be unprecedented in Nova Scotia. It has been at least 15 years since a public complaint against a provincially-appointed judge has been referred to the Judicial Council, said a spokesperson for the provincial law courts to the Halifax Examiner.

Removing the judge is just one step.

The entire taxi industry must commit to educating their drivers not to commit sexual assault as well as no longer employing drivers who — conviction or not — have sex with passengers. Feeling unsafe and left without justice, women in Halifax are already organizing to drive one another around by using a hashtag.

Rape culture is when women who do the right thing, like taking a cab home when they're drunk, have to ask for justice from the wrong person.

From the roads to city councils to the courts of justice, institutions must do everything possible to prioritize the safety of women, or risk completely losing their trust.

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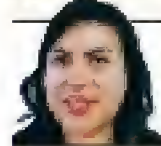
Just arrived, and already giving back



Sitti Ali JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

REFUGEES

Woman who crossed border aims to help



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

Sitti Ali says she does not miss her first home.

She doesn't elaborate on why

to reporters, but the recently arrived refugee appears to be adjusting well to life in Winnipeg.

The 28-year-old from Djibouti walked to Canada through Emerson, Man. in November, after flying to the U.S.

She said she spent two months in Denver before taking a bus to Minnesota.

Ali said she heard people were finding their way to Manitoba through Minnesota and she yearned to make the trip.

So she took a bus to Grand Forks and from there, a taxi to the border where she met another group of six from Djibouti who were hoping to make the same trek to Emerson.

Ali walked with three women, two men and an eight-month-old baby starting at 7 p.m. one night, she said.

When they arrived in Canada seven hours later, "I was the only one there who spoke English so I called 911 (and)

said, 'We are refugees,'" she remembered.

She described the police and border services agents as welcoming and friendly.

Ali shared her story at a press conference where the United Way announced support for asylum seekers in the form of a new website: helprefugees.ca.

After about three months in Winnipeg, Ali said she is also looking to give back.

She's volunteering at Wel-

come Place, helping other refugee claimants file their paperwork, and is opening her own home to newcomers that the non-profit doesn't have enough accommodations for. Right now, she has 11 people staying in her home temporarily. The most she's hosted is 18.

Ali recently got her work permit, so finding a job is top of mind. She said her dream job involves "helping people" in any way.

MEMORIAL

Monument has 5 final submissions



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa could be home to the leaning tower of Vladimir Lenin.

The falling figure of the Russian communist revolutionary is the central feature of one of five finalists to become the monument to the victims of communism, whose site was moved in 2015 from land near the Supreme Court to the Garden of the Provinces and Ter-

ritories, on Wellington near Bay Street.

Jeff Cutler, with the team Space2Place, which is proposing the Lenin-centric design, said having the statue's toppling effect ties into history.

"What it really represents is that moment of transition from the fall of a communist regime into something new," he said.

He said his group chose Lenin because of his central role in the movement.

"All of the modern-day communism can really trace their

roots back to him."

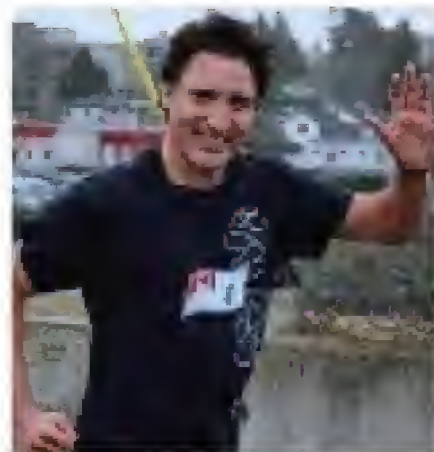
Four other designs are also competing to be selected for the project, including an elevated platform, a grouping of triangular monoliths and a design with 200 bronze blades.

Paul Raff's design features more than 4,000 bronze pipes attached to a large sculpture that would mark moments in the history of communism.

"The dissolution of the Soviet Union can be marked on a day of the calendar, so it is memorialized forever," he said.

MARIJUANA

Legalizing pot will protect kids: PM



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau went running with members of the Canadian Forces Thursday.
CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says regulating the sale of marijuana will protect young people and take money away from criminal gangs, but the government is drawing the line at pot when it comes to legalizing illicit drugs.

The federal government's approach on pot has two goals, Trudeau said Tuesday during a visit to Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt in the Victoria area.

"The first is to protect our kids. Right now we know that young people have easier access to marijuana than just about any other illicit substance. It's

easier to buy a joint for a teenager than it is to buy a bottle of beer. That's not right," he said.

"Secondly, we know that criminal organizations and street gangs are making billions of dollars off of the sale of marijuana. We feel that regulating it, controlling it will bring that revenue out of the pockets of criminals and put it into a system where we can both monitor, tax it and ensure that we are supporting people who are facing challenges related or unrelated to drug use."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sessions steps aside from probe



Democrats are demanding an investigation into whether Jeff Sessions committed perjury. GETTY IMAGES

POLITICS

Evasion adds to suspicions around Trump and Russia

U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions recused himself Thursday from federal investigations related to the 2016 election campaign, including a probe of interactions between the Russian government and associates of President Donald Trump.

Sessions' decision came the afternoon after the Washington Post revealed he had misled the Senate when he said under

oath that he "did not have any communications with the Russians" during the campaign. In fact, he had at least two meetings with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak.

Sessions insisted at a Thursday news conference that his answer had been "honest." But he conceded under questioning that he should have disclosed he had met "one Russian official a couple of times."

The uproar surrounding Sessions, who was a prominent Trump campaign adviser, is only the latest development in a sprawling Russia controversy that has alternated between a simmer and a blaze throughout Trump's entire six-week-old presidency. Sessions is at least the

second top Trump appointee to become engulfed by criticism over his inaccurate claims related to contact with Kislyak.

The other one, former national security adviser Michael Flynn, resigned in February.

Sessions brushed aside top Democrats' Thursday calls for his own resignation, and Trump said he thought Sessions had "probably" been truthful in his testimony. Sessions said he was recusing himself only because he had been involved in Trump's campaign, implying his January remarks were not a factor.

Regardless, the revelation adds more fuel to suspicions that Trump is attempting to conceal something about his relationship with Russia. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOINT PROBE

Multiple U.S. intelligence agencies are conducting a joint probe into the alleged Russian interference in the election, which they believe involved the hacking of the Democratic National Committee and Hillary Clinton's campaign chairman.

One of the things they are studying, according to the New York Times, is communication between Trump associates and the Russian government.

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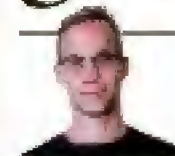
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WEBSITES

Comment section gets skill test filter



Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

Canadians are quite familiar with skill-testing contest questions. Perhaps skill-testing comment questions will be next.

In a bid to keep a lid on the generally ill-informed fury that comments sections quickly become, a Norwegian website will ask those hoping to weigh in one simple question: Did you actually read the article?

Last month, NRKbeta — a tech site operated by Norway's public broadcaster — introduced a new feature that quizzes readers on details of the



article before they're allowed to toss in their two cents.

"We thought we should do our part to try and make sure that people are on the same page before they comment," NRKbeta reporter Stale Grut told Nieman Lab.

Many news websites, including Metro, have jettisoned comment sections after they were largely taken over by hostile and reactionary ranting.

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Smog fees Lawyers suing Beijing over the city's smog are demanding compensation for the likes of masks and doctor's visits.

DECODED by Andrés Plana and Sarah-Joyce Battersby

WHAT TO EXPECT IN TECH

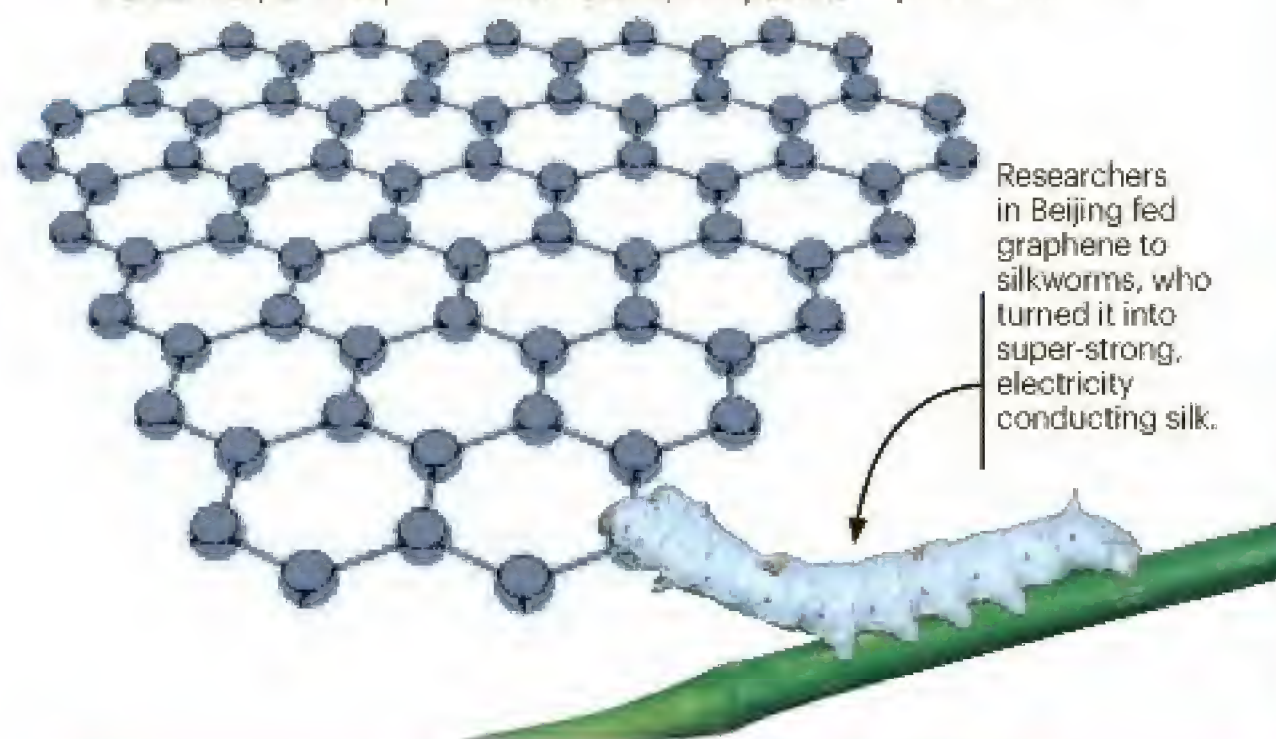
It's been almost 6,000 years since the wheel was invented, but science has not been resting on its innovation laurels. A mere 300 years later, wheels were first used for transportation. And now in the 21st century it looks like invention is starting to hit its stride, with new discoveries and applications cropping up regularly. **Here's a look at tech from the not-too-distant future**

1 Graphene

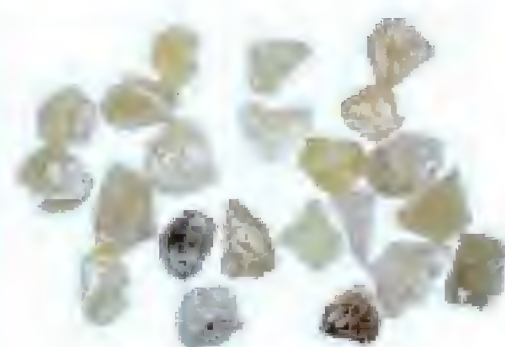
Touted as the first 2D material, graphene is very thin (one million times thinner than human hair) and very

strong (200 times stronger than steel). Since researchers at the University of Manchester published their discovery of the material in 2004, more than 8,000 patents

have been registered, with Samsung holding the most. The substance can be used in batteries, bendable computer screens, and water purification.



Researchers in Beijing fed graphene to silkworms, who turned it into super-strong, electricity conducting silk.

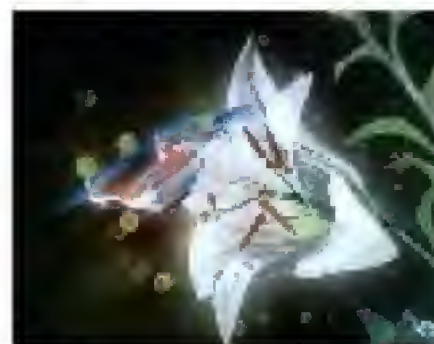


2 Nuclear waste diamond batteries

As 2016 came to a close, British researchers announced they could turn nuclear waste into diamonds that could in turn be used as long-lasting batteries. The power-emitting gems don't have enough juice to charge a smartphone, but they can last for thousands of years. So it's a trade off.

3 Pollinating Drones

Hoping to ease the burden on dwindling bee populations, Japanese scientists announced last month they had created insect-sized drones to pollinate plants. Enthusiasm for robot bees depends on how many episodes of dystopian TV series Black Mirror you've seen.



4 Hover-bike

For all your Star Wars-style transportation needs, a U.K. company is working to develop a manned helicopter bike. The project is still in the prototyping and fundraising phase, but it did attract interest from the U.S. Department of Defense in 2015.



5 Cooling Plastic

In an attempt to beat the heat, engineers have developed a cheap plastic film that blocks heat from the sun while also cooling anything it touches by up to 10 C. The details were

published in the journal Science by researchers in Wyoming and Colorado, who say the method could be mass-produced and used to cool buildings.

Hyperloop

It doesn't exist yet, but if it did it could travel between Toronto and Montreal in 30 minutes. Students gathered for a SpaceX-sponsored contest in January to help make the dream a reality.

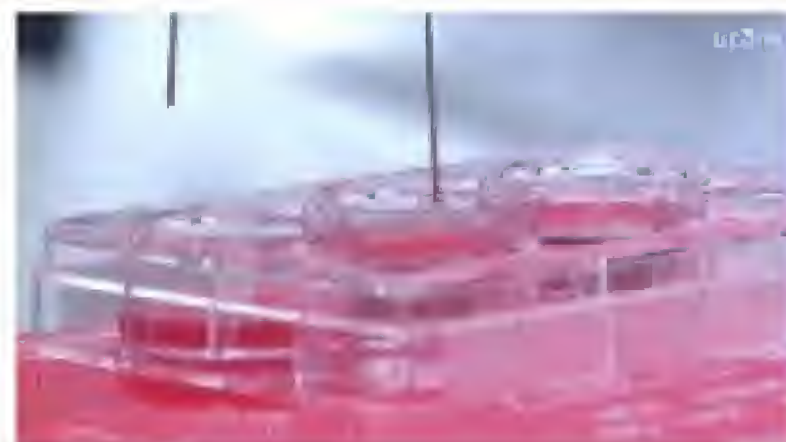


Translating headphones

These translation earbuds are set to start shipping in May. For now they only translate the romance languages and require all speakers to wear them, but in the future they could listen and translate all sounds around you.

Human skin printer

Scientists have developed a prototype for a machine that prints out sheets of human skin that could be used for transplants or cosmetic and pharmaceutical testing.



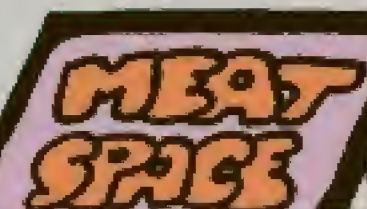
FINDINGS Your week in science



Sweet pee Alberta researchers have a theory: test for urine in pools by looking at sugar levels, since artificial sweeteners stay intact in pee. Using the method, they found 75 litres of urine in a pool one-third of Olympic size. That equals about 37 big bottles of Coke.

Quebec cradle of life A team of researchers believe they have uncovered the oldest known signs of life on the planet in a spot on the shores of Hudson Bay in northern Quebec. The fossils contain traces of bacteria from 3.77 billion years ago.

SOUND SMART

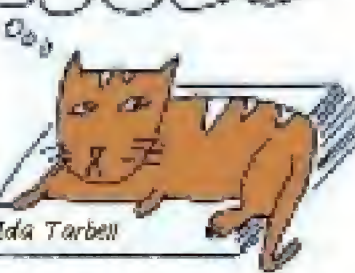


DEFINITION **Meatspace** the physical world, as opposed to cyberspace or a virtual environment.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE Deborah has been using her phone so much to deal with social life that I think she forgot about the **meatspace**.

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A sweeter side of Wolverine

IN FOCUS

Hugh Jackman brings sharp humanity in mutant finale

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Temperament wise, Hugh Jackman doesn't have much in common with his most famous screen role.

As the embodiment of Wolverine — a mutant blessed with miraculous healing powers but cursed with a bad hairstyle and existential angst — Jackman is the face of the character. But off screen he is as gracious as his cigar-smoking X-Men alter ego is testy.

His Prisoners co-star Terence Howard told me Jackman was, "a sweet man," while director Josh Rothstein said the actor "leads with smiles and warmth."

Doesn't sound much like Wolverine to me.

When he isn't playing Wolverine he devotes his time to charitable causes like World Vision and Laughing Man, a coffee company he established that sells fair trade coffee and tea, products farmed using ecologically friendly methods and sold for the benefit of the farmer and consumer.

This weekend he stars in Logan, the third solo Wolverine film. In the new movie the X-Men antihero makes tracks to the Mexican border to set up a hide-out for ailing mentor Professor X, played by Patrick Stewart.

This installment marks the ninth time Jackman has slipped on the adamantium claws, and will be his swansong in the role.

Having played the character



Dafne Keen as Laura and Patrick Stewart's Professor X are Hugh Jackman's sidekicks in Wolverine swansong Logan. CONTRIBUTED

for almost 18 years Jackman owns the part, bringing real humanity to the mutant in an powerful and accomplished performance.

But, as he told me in a friendly, wide-ranging and informative interview, he wasn't always as self-assured.

"When I started acting I was the dunce of the class," he reveals. Success in school, he says, came because of his work ethic, a trait he picked up from his father.

"He never took one day off in his life," he remembers. "He had five kids he was bring-

ing up on his own. If anyone deserved a day off it was my old man, but he never did. I learned that from him."

"There's always that feeling of, 'I have to work harder than everybody else. I'm not born Phillip Seymour Hoffman. I've

got to just work harder and I'm prepared to do it."

Being the youngest of five children also contributed to his outlook.

"I always wanted to do stuff and not be left out," he says, but adds, "I was quite a fearful

kid, which I hated."

"I've always had a fear of fear. It's weird to think back now but drama school is a pressure cooker situation. People get kicked out of drama school. You are constantly being judged on how you are doing; are you progressing, are you not?"

"Almost everyday you had to get up and do a monologue. Sing a song. Do it in front of everybody. I noticed I was always first. I never wanted to sit there waiting. I'm not saying that out of courage. It was too uncomfortable to sit, stewing.

I don't think I've told anyone else that."

Later, fear of unemployment pushed him to expand his talents.

"When I came out of drama school I was like, 'I'm going to do anything I can just to keep working.' In drama school you do Shakespeare to movement to circus skills to singing all in one morning. I know a lot of people hated it but I revelled in it. I loved it."

Seems hard work and confidence is the X-factor that made Jackman the most famous — and friendly — of all the X-Men.



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Before I Fall ★★★
Ballerina ★
Table 19 ★★★
The Shack ★
Bitter Harvest ★★

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A story set in Ukraine's famine

PERIOD DRAMA

Bitter Harvest delves into a long-hidden genocide

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Genocide may be largely associated with the terrible atrocities that took place in Armenia, Rwanda and during the Holocaust of the Second World War. But there is another historical horror that actor Max Irons is hoping to enlighten moviegoers about.

"It was new to me and it's new to most people from what I can tell," said the young star about Holodomor, the man-made Ukrainian famine at the centre of his latest film, *Bitter Harvest*.

"There was a concerted effort made by (Joseph) Stalin and the Soviet Union to keep what happened in Ukraine under wraps and as a result few people knew about it up until about '91. Even today, only about 24 countries



Max Irons stars in *Bitter Harvest*, a film about two separated lovers set during the 1930s famine in Ukraine, which wiped out millions of people. CONTRIBUTED

acknowledge it for what it was — which is a state-sponsored genocide."

While the film (set in the 1930s) is an excavation of the neglected disaster that killed millions of people, the period drama about two separated lovers battling to reunite during the crisis also takes on a decidedly contemporary flavour

in light of today's tension over Russian President Vladimir Putin's annexation of the Crimea region.

"I think the DNA of the country led to what happened in the '30s and again is leading to what's happened with Crimea and Ukraine today," said Irons. "It's a country that's divided politically, ethnically, linguistically,

economically and also it's struggling for its sense of national identity (and) even now Putin refuses to acknowledge the Ukraine as its own sovereign state. So it's a country in the wrong place."

While candid on the complex issue, Irons is also quick to distance any direct connection between *Bitter Harvest* and the

BEHIND THE SCENES

Fiction vs. non-fiction

"Films can be so many things from straight-up entertainment to slightly solemn and worthy things that teach people a thing or two," said Max Irons. "But I was attracted to this story because so few people know about it."

The Canadian connection

Bitter Harvest was produced by Toronto-based financier Ian Ihnatowycz, whose own family fled Ukraine in the 1940s.

"(He) feels, like many Ukrainians do, that this story needs to be told," said Irons.

"He's fortunate enough to have enough access to the kind of capital required to make a film like this and tell the story and he's gone ahead and done it, which is pretty great."

An actor by choice

"I never believed that thing about it (being) in your genes," said Irons about his famous filmmaking family. "It was only when I did it for the first time (and) it was just more engaging and more fun and exercising the parts of my brain that I wanted to exercise."

region's current politics. After all, he insists he's just an actor and "if it's a great story, it's a great story," regardless of the politics involved.

It would seem such insight might have been imparted from his parents — two people who know a thing or two about filmmaking. But the son of Oscar-winner Jeremy Irons and legendary Irish stage actress

Sinead Cusack insists that he's not necessarily relied on their fame for career success — or even their advice.

"They understand that everyone has to make their own way and make their own mistakes and have their own victories," said Irons.

"They're quite nice like that — they just let me get on with it."

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Following Gigi's journey to Gorgeous



Canadian YouTube star Gigi Gorgeous, right, with her partner, Nats Getty. [INSTAGRAM/@NATSGETTY](#)

DOCUMENTARY

Why nothing is off limits in Youtube star's transition tale

Canadian transgender YouTube star Gigi Lazzarato has been extremely candid in sharing the story of her male-to-female transition with her millions of subscribers.

So it's not surprising that the new documentary *Gigi Gorgeous: This is Everything*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, leaves little unsaid or hidden as its 24-year-old star chronicles her "journey" from childhood, to coming out as gay, and her gender transition.

"That's why we entitled the film *This is Everything*, because ... nothing is off limits," Lazzarato said the day after the premiere.

Born the middle of three boys, Gregory Lazzarato is introduced as an outgoing, frantically active kid from Mississauga, Ont., who was a championship diver as a teen. But

he struggled with being bullied in high school, especially after starring in makeup-application tutorials on YouTube.

Told in chronological order, the first half of the film relies on video made by Lazzarato as a diary of experiences for friends and family. She also acts as narrator.

"When I was done with my transition I thought this would be a great movie," said Lazzarato, who knew she wanted a woman to "tell my story" and chose two-time Oscar-winning director Barbara Kopple, who made *Harlan County, USA*; *Miss Sharon Jones!* and *Dixie Chicks: Shut Up & Sing*.

"I got into a world where I never thought of Gigi as transgender. I just thought of her as Gigi and never wanted to say 'he' or ask her too many questions because I just felt she's who she is," said Kopple, who added "we should all be so lucky to have parents and brothers like Gigi does."

Indeed, the most touching moments in the film come courtesy of Lazzarato's family. Her brothers, and father David, are studies in how to be supportive, while Lazzarato talks

about how devastated she was following the death of her mother, Judy, from cancer five years ago.

In one scene, David Lazzarato tenderly gives his woozy child a sponge bath as she recovers from breast-implant surgery.

Although he occasionally struggles with pronouns and seems taken aback when Lazzarato announces she has booked \$14,000 worth of facial feminization surgery, he later says that "having Gigi happy is way more important than me having the old Greg."



I think I've always gotten my message across the strongest by telling my story and visually telling my story will ignite even more of a reaction.

Gigi Lazzarato

"I think my dad is definitely the star in my life," said Lazzarato, who attended the Sundance premiere dressed in a floor-length, crystal-embellished gown accompanied by friends, family and her partner, model and designer Nats Getty of the American oil family.

On her YouTube channel, Lazzarato speaks candidly to her more than 2.5 million subscribers in videos that are continually wrapped in a strong anti-bullying, be-yourself message.

"I'm really excited. I think I've always gotten my message across the strongest by telling my story and visually telling my story will ignite even more of a reaction from people," said Lazzarato of the film.

She wishes Caitlyn Jenner was around when she was transitioning and takes her role as an inspiration for a new generation seriously.

"I know I turned a lot of people's mindsets around just from my personality, people who might not have known transgender people, not been as supporting of transgender people or gay people," she said.

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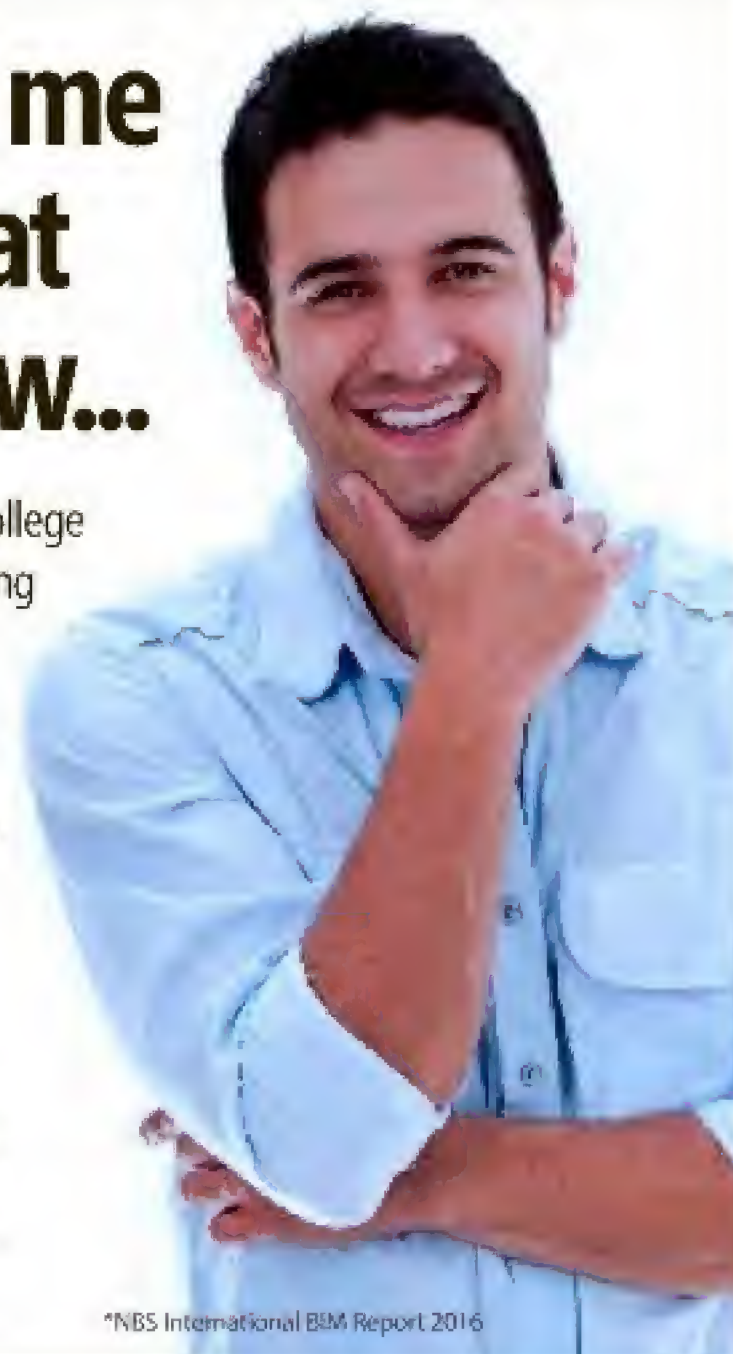
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Avoiding falls, Deutch is on the rise

INTERVIEW

Actress waves goodbye to her Disney days and grows up fast

To say actress Zoey Deutch is a regular at Art's Deli is an understatement. Sporting an oversized sweatshirt, she breezes into the restaurant, a Studio City institution since 1957, and is immediately greeted with familiar hugs from the wait staff. One chimes in that he's known her since she was a baby.

"I do all my interviews here, I do all my meetings here, I do all my dates here," Deutch laughs. "There's a lot of ground covered at this deli."

Deutch grew up not too far away from the spot with her movie business parents. Her dad is Pretty in Pink director Howie Deutch and her mom, actress and '80s dream girl Lea Thompson. They fell for each other on the set of the high school rom-com Some Kind of Wonderful and have stayed together since.

At 22, Deutch, is looking to make a name for herself in the business separate from her insider parents. She's been acting professionally since age 15, transitioning from Disney shows to young adult genre fare, some of which are better regarded (Beautiful Creatures) than others (Vampire Academy), and now more adult roles. Earlier this year, she was paired opposite James Franco, 16 years her senior, in the studio comedy Why Him, and last year played the wise female lead in the otherwise testosterone fueled Richard Linklater indie Everybody Wants Some!!

Her latest, Before I Fall, is a dark Groundhog Day-like portrait of a popular teenager forced to relive the last day of her life over and over again. The film explores subjects like bullying, peer pressure and how to be a decent person in the world within conventions of a psychological thriller.

"She's the real thing," said Before I Fall director Ry Russo-Young. "The girl has serious chops."

Deutch is someone who admittedly likes to take control of things, even outside of the duties of "actor."

Before I Fall, for instance, was a \$3 million movie that didn't have much of a wardrobe budget, so she found herself calling in favours to make sure they had all the necessary duplicates to work for the time loop construct.

Recently, too, she put on a public relations hat to tell the folks at a morning talk show where she was a guest that there'd be no running a clip from her new film of a car crash first thing in the morning, "right before people get in the car!"

She even ordered a cup of matzah ball soup for this reporter at Art's.

"It's the best!" she says as she transitions between myriad topics from what books she's excited about lately (she just finished The Feminist Porn Book and is about to start Kupi Kaur's Milk and Honey) to the magic of Christian Marclay's experimental video art installation The Clock. In her next film, Rebel in the Rye, she plays the popular socialite Oona O'Neill, who dated J.D. Salinger and eventually married Charlie Chaplin and got to affect a mid-Atlantic accent a la Katharine Hepburn (Deutch's "queen idol of the universe").

Deutch is interested in everything and everyone. She skipped out on college to focus on acting, but packs her free time with extracurricular pursuits. She reads voraciously, studies with a political science tutor (the current focus is on constitutional law) and even takes art classes at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

She has taken a vested interest in politics and feminist causes, like reproductive rights, excitedly lifting up her sweatshirt to reveal a T-shirt underneath with an image of female anatomy and a gun with the words that the former is "more controlled" than the latter. Deutch found the shirt at a local bookstore and bought some for all of her friends. "They're like, 'what's that?'" Deutch said. "I'm like, 'that's your uterus.'"

Speaking out on causes is something she feels a respon-



Zoey Deutch plays a popular teenager forced to live the last day of her life over and over in Before I Fall. ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

sibility to do.

"There are privileges in my life, inherently, because of my job and that I'm white. I have these things that are completely out of my control and if I don't use these things to raise awareness for people who don't, then that's lame," she said.

But of course the primary focus is acting, and she's in it for the long haul. Deutch resents the moniker "it girl" for the temporality it implies.

"It's OK, call me whatever you want, but I'm here forever whether you like it or not. I love what I do and in whatever capacity I can. I have no facade. No delusions of grandeur of how one's path goes. I know this is an up and down crazy journey and I'm prepared and willing to go on," she said.

"I want to do a Western! I want to do a musical I want to do a remake of 'Venus in Fur.' I want to do everything. And I will." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MOONLIGHT RETURNS TO THEATRES

Biggest release yet

Best-picture winner Moonlight is heading back into theatres in what will be its widest release yet.

Its distributor, A24, said the film will play in about 1,500 theatres this weekend across North America.

Barry Jenkins' coming-of-age drama scooped three Oscars in total last

weekend — best picture, best supporting actor for Mahershala Ali and best adapted screenplay, which was shared by Jenkins and Tarell Alvin McCraney, author of In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue, on which the movie is based.

Moonlight first opened in late October, and while it played in 585 theatres last

weekend, it's already out on DVD and digital rental.

The film's long release never surpassed 1,104 screens. By comparison, most major wide-release films open on 3,000 or more screens.

As of this week, Moonlight has grossed \$22.7 million in the U.S. and Canada. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lessons from a family gap year

ADVENTURE

Parents stick to epic plan, even when the kids are fussy

Yvette Duffy's adventure of a lifetime began with years of meticulous planning.

The goal was to visit 16 countries in 10 months — an around-the-world ramble in which she and her husband would introduce their 10- and 13-year-old kids to an array of cultures, traditions and invaluable life lessons.

A family gap year, or even a months-long jaunt, can seem like an impossible dream for average Canadians. But many figure out a way, despite significant hurdles: finances, schooling, work obligations and of course, the kids' willingness to go along.

Before their trip, Duffy and her husband curtailed spending and drafted a list of countries to visit. Duffy deferred 20 per cent of her teacher's salary for four years so they could afford a year-long leave. They crunched the numbers again and again and tweaked their list of dream destinations.

As the trip approached, they sold their car and arranged a home swap for one of the costliest legs of the trip — three weeks in the south of France.

School was also an issue, since their son would essentially skip Grade 5 while their daughter would ditch Grade 8. So Duffy downloaded outlines of their academic requirements and vowed to homeschool on the road.

It was a risky plan, Duffy ac-



Riding camels in northern Morocco, from left: husband Scott Morson, kids Matthew and Alexandra, and Yvette Duffy. Right: Lisa Kisch and husband Quillan Nagel with daughters Audrey, centre, and Lily, right, at the San Buenaventura Church in Homun, Mexico. ALL PHOTOS COURTESY YVETTE DUFFY/LISA KISCH/THE CANADIAN PRESS



knowledges, but the payoff was huge. Several months after returning to Toronto, she points to incredible memories, a tighter family bond, and confident kids.

"Their self-esteem definitely increased, their sense of independence increased, their knowledge of the world definitely grew," Duffy says of the impact of visiting locales including Iceland, northern Africa, the Himalayas, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

"They can now speak about places and issues in the world with more confidence and actually recognize the challenges that are facing the world around poverty, human rights, climate change."

Toronto mom Lisa Kisch says she indulged a long-held dream to see the world after her mother suddenly fell ill with terminal cancer.

Eager to distract herself from grief, Kisch dove into a plan to take her husband and two daughters on a seven-month jaunt to Mexico, the Virgin Islands, England, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, Israel, Italy and Croatia.

Reached at their first stop in Merida, Mexico earlier this year, Kisch rattled off a list of tips and tricks that could actually keep her finances in the black, thanks to a healthy passive income.

She's renting out their Toronto home and also found tenants for their cottage. Her online

business as a network marketer for a beauty products company also promises a continued source of income.

Living and accommodation expenses should drop — depending on where they travel — and more savings come from reduced home and car insurance. Plus they won't be on the hook for the regular stream of birthday party gifts for her daughters' friends, she jokes.

Kisch used a broker to score seven months of health insurance for the whole family for \$1,000 and will curb travel costs by hitting Europe in May before high-season starts. More affordable destinations like Portugal will alternate with pricier stops,

like London.

While the budget fell into place, she hadn't anticipated how hard the move would be on her eight- and 10-year-old girls, who were sad to leave friends. Several days into the trip they were still crying and she admits to being plagued by mom-guilt.

"It did surprise me that after five or six days they were still wishing they were home," says Kisch. "And then I realized: You know what? You had a vision for this trip from the beginning for a reason and just keep that vision even while your kids are going through those ups and downs because ultimately that's what they're real-

ly going to learn from."

Lingering in one place allows for some semblance of a normal routine, she adds. Their mornings generally consist of schoolwork, an excursion and then lunch.

Sightseeing is a leisurely jaunt, not the frenzied rush that can mar shorter trips, she says.

"If you have to see absolutely everything, they're going to be miserable, you're going to be miserable, they're not going to remember it anyway."

"The things they remember are: 'Remember when we walked to that place and we saw that shop and there was the lady with the flowers?'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOW THEY DID IT

The straight logistics, or how to order pizza in any language

Living abroad temporarily can seem out of reach for families. Here's a look at how two Canadian families managed:

Family: Yvette Duffy, her husband and two kids, ages 10 and 13

Home: Toronto

Travel dates: Sept. 7, 2015 to mid-June 2016

Where they went: Iceland, France, Spain, Morocco, Egypt, India, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Nepal, Turkey, Greece, Italy,

England and Scotland.

How they handled school:

Online sites were key for math — mostly IXL and the Khan Academy, but also the University of Waterloo's Problem of the Week. Duffy downloaded ebooks and audio books related to each locale. Kids blogged about things like blood cells and oxygen levels in Nepal, and "impossible loads" in Vietnam where motorcycles routinely carry massive cargo. Upon



return, the kids went to a French summer camp before resuming studies at their French immersion school.

The cost: They sold their car, lived frugally and arranged a home swap. For four years, Duffy deferred 20 per cent of her salary. They offset hefty airfare costs by using a travel app that scoured for deals.

Travel tip: Keep baggage light. "Sometimes (the kids) wanted things. And then the question was: 'Are you willing

to carry that for the remainder of the trip?' And it always came down to: 'No.'"

Family: Lisa Kisch, her husband and two kids, ages eight and 10

Home: Toronto

Travel dates: Jan. 3, 2017 to July 2017

Where they went: Mexico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, England, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, Israel, Italy and Croatia.

How they handled school: Kisch discussed pulling her kids out of Grades 3 and 5 with teachers, who were very

supportive. But her school board doesn't provide materials for home schooling. Kisch loaded e-readers with library books, and bought math workbooks. **Income:** Rental income from their home and a cottage covers both mortgages and provides about \$2,500 a month extra. Plus, Lisa continues to work online as a network marketing professional and receives a salary.

The cost: Mexico provided affordable comfort — a large two-bedroom house with pool in Merida for \$2,500 a month.



Uber rides, groceries and restaurants were cheap.

Day-to-day costs rose in St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, but over the course of the trip, Kisch expects they'll spend about as much as they would living in Toronto.

Travel tip: Quell tantrums by picky eaters with help from food ordering apps that do the translating for you. "The day I got here I tried to order pizza ... and it was an epic fail," Kisch recalls of her nascent Spanish-speaking skills.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Malta emerging from Catholic rule

LGBTQ

A social revolution in the former British colony

At age 24, Alex Mangion became Malta's first transgender politician when he won a local office on the conservative Nationalists' ticket, a striking combination in a country that until recently had been a last bastion in western Europe of social norms largely dictated by the Catholic church.

The Nationalist Party recruited Mangion to run for town council with an eye toward grooming him as a candidate for next year's Parliamentary election. The party, which governed Malta for a quarter-century, hopes to reverse its stinging, landslide 2013 loss to socialist archrivals who returned to power with an agenda heavy on LGBTQ rights.

Mangion, now 26, has notched a personal achievement as well: he was the first person in Malta to be able to update the gender on his official documents without undergoing surgery or hormone treatment thanks to the passage of comprehensive transgender rights legislation. In 2015, the Nationalists sided with the socialist Labor Party to ensure unanimous approval of the bill.

Other nations are taking note of Malta's remarkably rapid transformation from conservative outpost—divorce remained illegal in the country until 2011—to increasingly liberal standard-bearer.

"There are countries which we had looked up to 'til now and that are said to be very progressive," Helena Dalli, Malta's minister for civil liberties, said in an interview Wednesday evening. "But they are asking us now, such as Belgium for instance, whether they can take our model of law, the gender-identity law, so they can model their own law on ours."

The Nationalists are a microcosm of the evolution underway in Malta, an island nation of some 420,000 people where generations of gay people lived undercover to avoid moral judgment.

To Mangion's dismay, his party abstained from voting on a 2014 civil unions law because of objections to allowing same-sex couples to adopt children. Then, two months ago, Malta became the first European nation to ban gay conversion therapy.

The ban, which carries fines as high as 10,000 euros and jail



Since introducing gay marriage in 2014, Malta has been expanding the rights of its LGBTQ community. ISTOCK/GETTY

ing. "We copied and pasted these (Maltese) guidance documents and we said, 'Look, this is how you do it,'" he recalled.

Once Malta legalized civil unions for same-sex couples, Steve and Manuel Aquilina had a wedding after two decades as a couple.

Steve Aquilina, who produces Manuel's popular cooking programs on Maltese TV, realized how far LGBTQ rights had come while vacationing. They stepped up to the passport control booth in Italy, another country influenced by Catholic teachings.

The official behind the glass, noting the same last names, asked if the two men were brothers. When they explained they were married, Aquilina recalled, the official told them, "You are lucky."

Aroma Kitchen is beamed into Maltese homes when families are sitting down for dinner. While doing his part to improve a national cuisine that leans more toward overcooked fish and soggy potatoes, he's cutting a role as a public gay figure.

"They're accepted like everyone else," said Victor Anastasi, a dairy consultant who appeared on the Tuesday episode to promote Maltese milk. "We're a Catholic country. But eventually the church has to come to terms" with a changing society.

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TRAVEL NOTES L.A.'S TINY RAILWAY RE-OPENING, GRACELAND GROWING, AND A U.K. FOOD FESTIVAL COMING TO CANADA

L.A.'s historic little railway returning

Angels Flight, L.A.'s beloved little railroad, had its cameo in the hit musical La La Land and now it's almost ready for its close-up.

The tiny funicular that hauled people 298 feet up and down the city's steep Bunker Hill was shut down in 2013 after a series of safety problems.

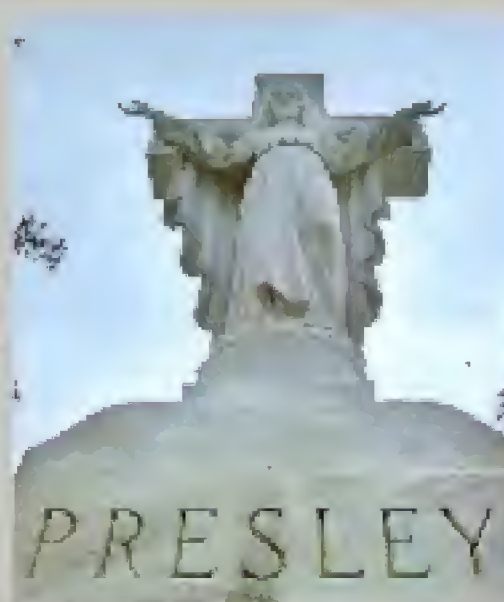
At a news conference Wednesday, Mayor Eric Garcetti said those issues are being resolved and the railroad's antique wooden cars should be back in service by Labour Day.

Angels Flight opened on New Year's Eve 1901, offering rides for a penny to people travelling up and down the hill from their Victorian mansions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Rising in Graceland

Nearly four decades after Elvis sang his last tune, his legacy got a \$45-million boost with Thursday's opening of a major new attraction — an entertainment complex that Priscilla Presley says gives "the full gamut" of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

Resembling an outdoor mall, the 200,000-square-foot campus sits across the street from Graceland in Memphis, Tenn., Presley's longtime home-turned-museum. The complex features a comprehensive Presley exhibit with clothing he wore on stage and guitars he played; a showcase of the cars he owned and used; a soundstage; a theatre; two restaurants and retail stores. Part of a \$140 million expansion, that includes a 450-room hotel that opened last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Canadian edition of U.K.'s Big Feastival

A food and music festival by British celebrity chef Jamie Oliver is coming to Canada in August.

The Big Feastival Canada will showcase music on one stage, Canadian chefs cooking live on another as well as family entertainment.

The Canadian event will focus on gourmet street food, pop-up restaurants and cook-offs.

Among the chefs taking part are Canadian TV personality and restaurateur Chuck Hughes, while Weezer and Ben Harper & the Innocent Criminals are the musical headliners. The inaugural event is slated to take place at Burl's Creek Event Grounds in Oro-Medonte, northeast of Barrie, Ont., from Aug. 18 to 20. THE CANADIAN PRESS


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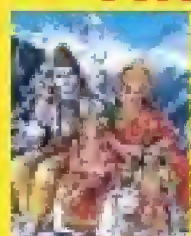


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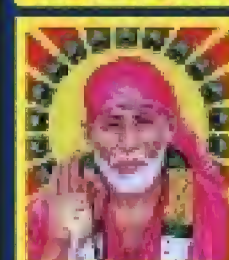
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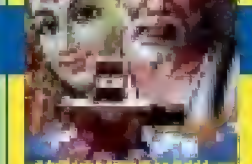
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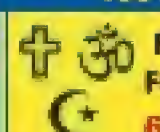
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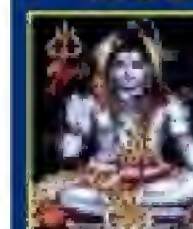
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Home-ice advantage in Gushue's favour

CURLING
St. John's skip takes aim at winning his first Brier

Everything appears to be lining up nicely for Newfoundland and Labrador skip Brad Gushue in his quest to finally raise the Tim Hortons Brier tankard.

His St. John's foursome is the top-ranked team in the country. Gushue is coming off a Canadian Open title and smooth run through the provincial play-downs. Boisterous crowds are expected to pack Mile One Centre to cheer his every throw at the national men's curling championship, which opens Saturday.

All Gushue needs to do now is outlast a strong field and hope that a lingering left hip/groin injury doesn't flare up.

"It isn't where I want it, there's no doubt about it," he said. "And I don't think it will get to where I'd like it to be until the off-season when I'm not curling and I can spend all of my energy



Brad Gushue and his foursome are the top-ranked team after winning the Canadian Open and Newfoundland and Labrador's playdowns. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

getting it stronger."

The injury kept Gushue off the ice for a few months at the start of the season but he has impressed since his return in December. He has continued his regular gym work and stretch-

ing routines to keep the affected area as strong as possible.

Gushue doesn't expect the injury to impact his performance, but admits he's a little worried about the length of the competition.

"It is what it is and we'll get through it," he said. "It's not going to stop me from playing."

Gushue made it to the final last year in Ottawa before falling to Kevin Koe, who returns this year as the Team Canada entry. Other teams expected to be in the playoff mix include Manitoba's Mike McEwen, Northern

Ontario's Brad Jacobs, Ontario's Glenn Howard and John Morris of British Columbia.

"I think it's a really tough field but I think we stack up great," Koe said. "To me essentially it's pretty much the same field as last year. A couple tweaks here and there, B.C. has a little stronger team I think with Morris in there. But last year was so tough and we managed to win it."

The Brier winner will represent Canada at the April 1-9 Ford world men's curling championship in Edmonton.

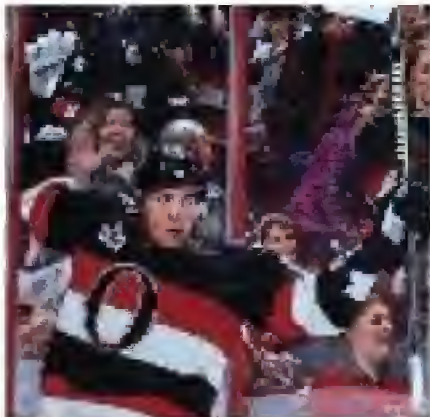
NHL Burrows buries Avs in his Sens debut

Alex Burrows scored twice in his debut with the Ottawa Senators and led his new club to a 2-1 win over the Colorado Avalanche on Thursday.

Burrows was traded by the Vancouver Canucks to Ottawa on Monday in exchange for prospect Jonathan Dahlen. Burrows had played his previous 822 games with the Canucks.

Craig Anderson had a relatively quiet night needing to make only 22 saves for the Senators. He did make a great right-pad stop off John Mitchell who was alone in tight on Anderson early in the third period.

Rene Bourque scored the lone goal for the Avalanche, who were kept in the game with a strong performance from Calvin Pickard who made 40 saves.



Alex Burrows scored twice on Thursday.
 FRANCOIS LAPLANTE/FREESTYLE PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES

THURSDAY In Ottawa

2	1
SENATORS	AVS

IN BRIEF

- Bautista blasts first home run of spring in Jays' tie**

Jose Bautista continued his impressive spring with a three-run homer, and the Toronto Blue Jays settled for an 8-8 tie with the Philadelphia Phillies in Grapefruit League baseball pre-season action Thursday.

Bautista went 2-for-2 in the game to increase his spring batting average to .500.

Left-hander JA Happ opened with two scoreless innings for Toronto, striking out two while allowing one hit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS
- Bogut switches sides in Cavs-Warriors rivalry**

Andrew Bogut has changed jerseys — and perhaps sides in the NBA Finals.

The free agent centre, who played for the Warriors the past four seasons, signed Thursday with the Cleveland Cavaliers, joining the team he faced the past two Junes with a championship on the line.

Also Thursday, Golden State signed forward Matt Barnes, adding the edgy veteran after losing Kevin Durant to a knee injury.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+

PRIOR BRIER CHAMPS BY PROVINCE

●

Alberta (27)

●

Manitoba (27)

●

Ontario (10)

●

Saskatchewan (7)

●

Northern Ontario (5)

●

British Columbia (4)

●

Nova Scotia (3)

●

Quebec (2)

●

Team Canada (1)

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UFC 209 one for real fight fans

MMA

Thompson and Woodley to battle once more for title

While the UFC waits for its mainstream stars to return to the octagon, the promotion has booked a UFC 209 card that appeals directly to its serious fight fans.

Conor McGregor, Ronda Rousey, Jon Jones, Georges St. Pierre and Brock Lesnar are all in various states of inactivity, suspension or retirement. Only St. Pierre has a fight currently booked, and it doesn't have a date. So Saturday's show from T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas is packed with talent, if not world-wide name recognition.

In the main event, welterweight champion Tyron Woodley and Stephen "Wonderboy" Thompson meet in a rematch four months after their entertaining majority draw. Moments before that, rising stars Tony Ferguson and Khabib Nurmagomedov will have one of the year's most anticipated bouts for the interim lightweight championship.

If two title fights aren't enough, the pay-per-view portion of the card leads off with veteran heavyweights Mark Hunt and Alistair Overeem. Hunt happens to be currently suing the UFC, president Dana White and Lesnar, alleging racketeering and fraud in the circumstances around his fight last July at UFC 200 against Lesnar, who subsequently failed a doping test.



Stephen Thompson, left, and Tyron Woodley fought to a draw at UFC 205 last November. MICHAEL REAVES/GETTY IMAGES

Woodley (16-3-1) retained his belt in New York late last year after two judges couldn't choose a winner in his first bout with Thompson (13-1-1), a 34-year-old karate teacher from South Carolina. The result left both fighters determined to prove their superiority, and the UFC swiftly scheduled a rematch — something that's not always a given in the money-driven world of mixed martial arts.

I'm going to break this guy.

Khabib Nurmagomedov on Tony Ferguson

"I'm prepared to go out there and be a better version than what I was the last time," Woodley said.

Thompson hasn't lost a fight since April 2012, and he would love to continue his rise with a striking-heavy victory over Woodley, who claimed the belt last July.

In the co-main event, Ferguson (23-3) and Nurmagomedov (24-0) are facing off for a star-making shot at McGregor, the current 155-pound champion. The California-based contenders have spent most of the promo-

tion sniping at each other.

"He thinks he's tough," Nurmagomedov said.

"But when the cage closes, me and him alone inside the cage, I'm going to break this guy."

Nurmagomedov has never lost, and the Dagestani-born fighter has rarely been seriously threatened during his first eight UFC fights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GSP says he is new fighter

Georges St-Pierre says fans will see a different fighter when he returns to action later this year against UFC middleweight champion Michael Bisping.

"The sport has evolved since I left," said St-Pierre, who last fought in November 2013. "If I want to be successful, I need to evolve as well."

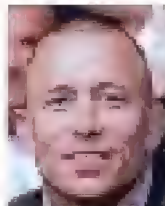
"If the same Georges St-Pierre shows up the day of the fight, Georges St-Pierre is going to get his ass kicked. It's going to have to be a different Georges St-Pierre — a more opportunistic Georges St-Pierre, more powerful, better, with new tools, less hesitation, less thinking, more intuition and better reaction. And that's what I expect you to see."

The former welterweight champion will be 36 by the time of the fight, set for some time in the second half of the year likely in Las Vegas.

Bisping, 38, has fought eight times since St-Pierre walked away from the sport following his razor-thin split decision win over Johny "Big Rigg" Hendricks at UFC 167. St-Pierre left millions on the table after posting his 12th straight win, saying his life had become "completely insane" and a "freaking zoo."

More than three years on, the Montreal MMA star says he is in a better place.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



George St. Pierre

GETTY IMAGES

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IN BRIEF

Jets parting ways with wide receiver Marshall

Brandon Marshall is on the move again — and the New York Jets' roster purge of big-name players with big salaries continues.

The Jets are releasing the well-travelled wide receiver and clearing \$7.5 million on the salary cap, a person with direct knowledge of

the team's decision told The Associated Press on Thursday night.

The announcement of the move is expected to come Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former NFLer Bess gets one year of probation

Former NFL wide receiver Davone Bess was sentenced

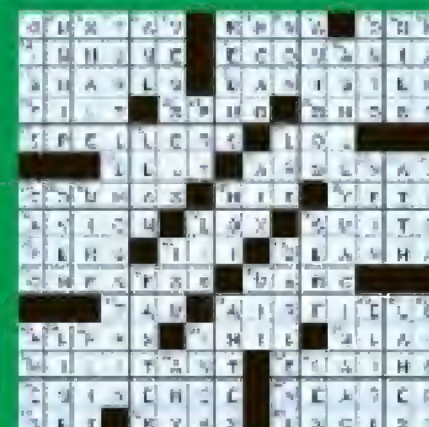
Thursday to one year of supervised probation after pleading no contest to an endangerment charge in Arizona.

The 31-year-old Bess originally had pleaded not guilty to a charge of unlawful flight from a law-enforcement vehicle near his suburban Phoenix home last June. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



2	7	1	9	3	4	6	5	8
6	9	5	7	1	8	2	4	3
8	3	4	5	6	2	7	1	9
5	8	3	6	4	7	9	2	1
7	1	2	8	5	9	4	3	6
4	6	9	3	2	1	8	7	5
9	4	8	1	7	3	5	6	2
3	5	7	2	9	6	1	8	4
1	2	6	4	8	5	3	9	7

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Retro Veggie Sloppy Joes



PHOTO: MAYA VISHNEV

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

- 1/4 tsp chili powder
- 1/4 tsp paprika
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup shaved cheddar

You won't miss the meat but will love the spice blend of cumin, chili and paprika that give this retro comfort meal an injection of tame heat. Don't forget the napkins.

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 chopped red pepper
- 2 (14 oz) cans black beans, rinsed
- 1 (14 oz) can of chick peas, rinsed
- 1 cup tomato sauce
- 2 Tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp maple syrup
- 1/4 tsp cumin

Directions

1. In a large skillet, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the onions and peppers.

2. Sauté until the vegetables are softened.

3. Add the beans, tomato sauce, vinegar, maple syrup, cumin, chili powder, paprika and salt.

4. Simmer for 15 minutes. Serve on toasted whole grain bun and sprinkle with cheddar cheese.

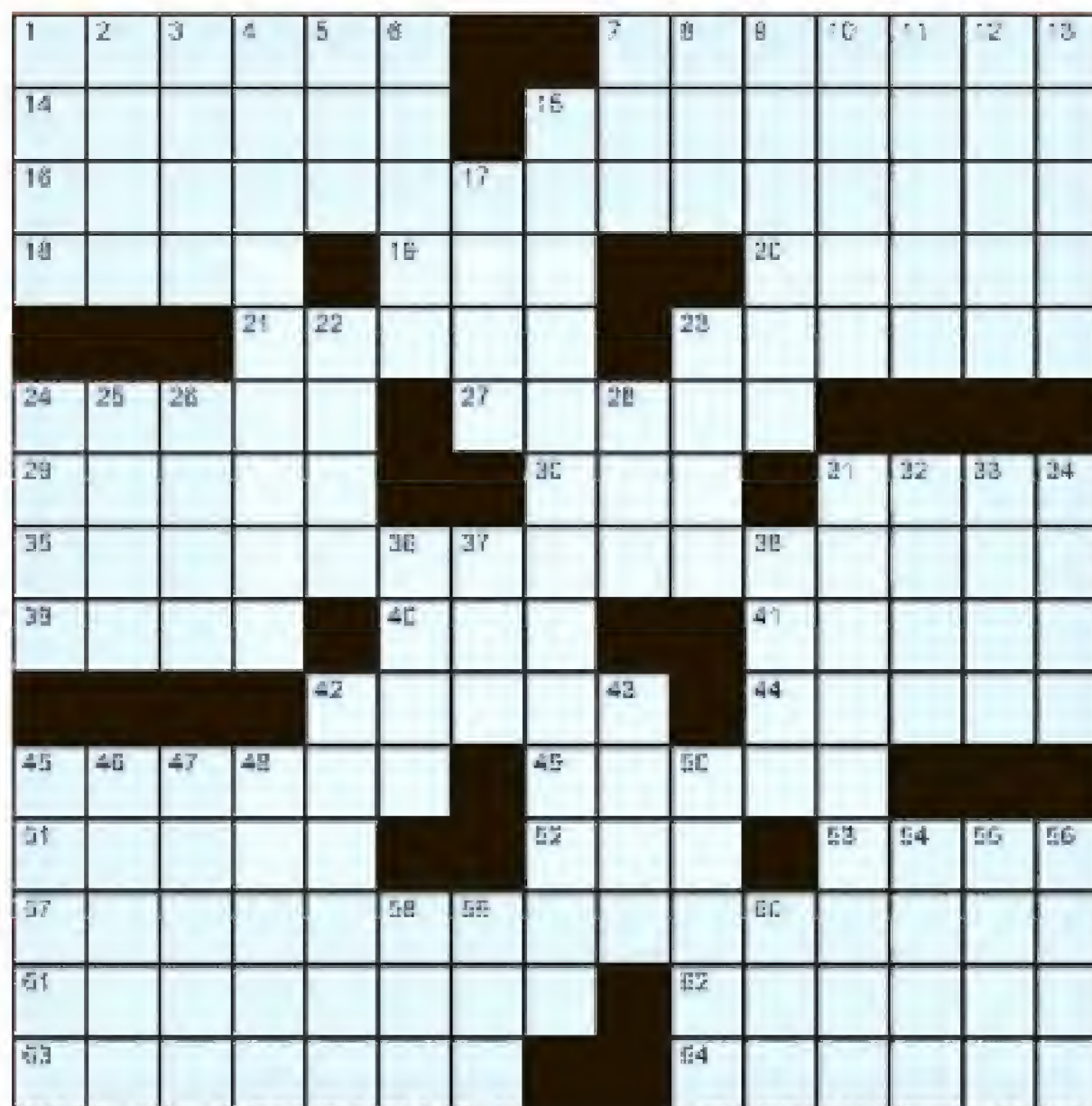
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- Garbo and Van Susteren
- Most quick
- Pick up on that sound: 2 wds.
- Go-with-coffee cookies
- Make a friendly gesture, as between neighbours: 4 wds.
- "Desperate Housewives" role
- WPM's "P"
- Freda of song
- Bob or Doug McKenzie
- Servings of chilled-in-moulds desserts
- Verboten
- Store promotions
- Glade target
- Assembled
- Director Mr. Mendes'
- Titanic accommodation: 3 wds.
- Alternative magazine, Reader
- Ad committee
- Foreigner's "Cold"
- SNL's Mr. Michaels
- "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" (2010)
- Noon
- Record over
- Struck all of (Surprised or disconcerted)
- Web connect-or, briefly
- Near, fancy-style
- Earth is one, some believe Mars might have been one: 2 wds.
- Tolkien's nasty



- creatures: 2 wds.
62. Necklace piece to keep tiny keepsakes
63. Clickety-click-clicks - makes a mistake - uses the backspace key - then does this
64. F's music equivalent: note + word

DOWN

- President Reagan's Veep-turned-Prez
- Raise
- House's gutter locale
- Casey and Finnegan's set: 2 wds.
- Small island

- Layovers
- Tenri' tail
- Residue kind
- Extents/ranges
- Entire
- Solvent sort, acetate
- Office item, pad
- Car's wheels

- Celtic family band from Cape Breton: 2 wds.
- Shoe width sizes, e.g.
- Dutch astronomer, Jan (b.1900 - d.1992)
- Transports for ritzy travellers

- Bean curd
- Mine passage
- "Free" (1966)
- Guitar legend Mr. Paul
- Mount in Alberta; or, Gaelic word for an outsider (Jamie's nickname for Claire) on Scottish Highlands set series "Outlander" on Showcase
- Somewhat: 2 wds.
- Detroit, _
- Snick-or- _
- Bok _ (Stir-fry ingredient)
- "Full House" star Ms. Loughlin, briefly
- Cleveland basketballers, briefly
- Easily portable computer
- Gaelic
- "Real Time with Bill _"
- 2005: "Can _ It Like That" by Pharrell feat. Gwen Stefani
- Money-spent transaction
- _ Mail (British newspaper)
- Genesis fruit
- "_ Dinka Doo" by Jimmy Durante
- Will of "The Waltons"
- ://www's start
- Sister Sledge's "We _ Family"
- Guess Who's lead singer's initials-sharers
- _ Alamos, New Mexico

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You might see new uses for something that you own today. Some of you will even see new ways to make money. Clever you! Ka-ching!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Take a realistic look in the mirror today, and ask yourself what you can do to improve your appearance. How can you create a better impression on your world?

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Something powerful and secretive is present in your life today. If you are focused and aware, whatever it is might introduce improvements into your world.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today you will attract someone powerful to you. This might be a pleasant experience — or not.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your relationships with bosses, parents and VIPs will be intense and direct today. However, the outcome will be that the relationship is superior.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You might have a powerful discussion with someone about politics, religion or racial issues today. (It's tough to keep your shirt on if you have to get something off your chest.)

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today you might see a better way to deal with shared property or something that is jointly owned. You also might come to a better arrangement regarding an inheritance.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Discussions with partners and close friends will be emotional and strong today. People will show their feelings. Fortunately, things will be better after the dust settles.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Look for ways to introduce reforms and improvements to your job or where you work. Similarly, you might even see ways to improve your health.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Romance will be passionate and intense today. In fact, you might feel obsessed with something.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Family discussions will be intense today. However, the main focus will be introducing improvements to where you live. Don't get carried away. Avoid major theatrics.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You are so powerful and convincing today that you will be successful if you are in sales, marketing, teaching, acting or writing. No one will be able to resist your words of persuasion!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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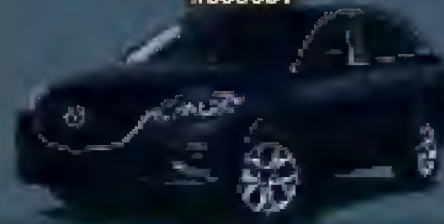
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Corolla LE

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